Property of the Estate of
A. Cateham Brown

J. Wolf & H. C. Richter, del et lith

GREENLAND FALCON—Falco r. candicans.

In falconry, the hawk of Kings, the noblest of the birds of prey. In the heyday of hawking, several specimens were brought to England from the Arctic and entered to herons. Otherwise, the great snow hawk of Greenland is an irregular spring and winter visitor to these islands. Sometimes it alights in an exhausted condition on ships at sea. Occasionally the creature is reported by bird-watchers in the north, especially along wild rugged coast. But it only leaves the Arctic in abnormally hard weather conditions.—*Eric Hosking.*

SHOUT
SHARE
IT

9th DECEMBER 1955

Hugh Wilson and Norman Wakefield came up for the weekend and, together with Bill Middleton, we set off for the Divings at about 5.30 pm on the Friday evening. We went through Beech Forest and turned down to the right through the pine and spruce plantations to the Aire R. Beyond the bridge the road became only a track (Binns Rd) and as we were the first vehicles with rear-drive wheels only to get through that season, we had some slick moments. However we reached the Ocean Rd where it comes out at Cape Horn and camped in a C.R.B. camp at the junction. Saw a Satin Bowerbird in the dusk. We were all tired, and turned in early.

10th DECEMBER 1955. After a sleep round after breakfast, we made back up Binns Rd to a spot where Norman Wakefield and Jim Wilks had previously found a good beech gully. We plunged

down off the road into the gully and walked up it, perhaps half a mile though it seemed much longer. We found the nest of a PINK ROBIN - a superb thing perched on a tree-fern frond, about 3 ~~miles~~ feet from the ground. Then we came across a slender tree-fern which Norm and Hugh measured as 24 feet - as far as is known, a record. I was extremely weary and was very tired when we got back up to the cars. We had lunch back at the Camp where we had spent the night.

In the afternoon we went on to the Pardoo R. and settled into Camp. I was exhausted - a most unpleasant condition. We went across to Blanket Bay and had a swim which was very revising. On the way back we saw an INDIAN MYNAH, of all things, flying straight for the lighthouse. What it expected to do when it got there I don't know! At Camp we saw a SATIN FLYCATCHER and KING PARROTS. How I slept!

11th DECEMBER 1955 After breakfast we went to Inter Rest, a beach gully just off the Ocean Rd and attempted to collect a specimen of a SCRUB-WREN which Hugh Wilson thinks is more closely related to the Tasmanian bird in that area. No luck. Then down the "Banana-bird" gully on the Ocean Road. There we took the 'find' of the week-end - a ROSE ROBIN. An excellent view at close quarters for a quarter of an hour or so. We called in and had a cuppa with Winnie Denny at Glen Aire and came home via the Gellibrand Valley and the Black's Bridge Rd.

22nd JANUARY 1956. We commenced our Caravan Holiday complete with Kids and dog at 4.0 when we left Fay's flat in Doran Rd and got to the Haunted Hills by 6.30. It was not the most successful of nights as Randolph managed to roll in some filth, and the Kids were sick.

23rd JANUARY 1956 Off at 9.45 on a hot day. Filled up with petrol at Marwell: left at 10.30: Lakes Entrance 12.50 There we had a swim and a meal. Left 2.10: Cann R 4.30; Mallacoota 6.30 There we camped out on the headland under a Callitris.

24th - 25th JANUARY 1956 Two days spent resting, swimming and walking round the beach and in a small gully near the camp. Nothing of particular interest in the way of birds was seen, other than the usual.

26th JANUARY Woken at 5.0am in heavy wind and rain. I cut my nose severely pushing up the car windows. However later the day was calm and bright. The morning was spent round the camp and at lunch I picked up Norm Wakefield's letter from the P.O. I had a map of where to find things. I went down to Davis Creek and saw a NANKEEN NIGHT-HERON & BROWN-HEADED HONEYEATERS. Later the whole family went on down to the

Bekta River on the Aerodrome Rd and saw the LITTLE TERNS flying over and landing on the large spit at the mouth of the river where they were evidently breeding.

7th JANUARY Was a fine day, and I explored a gully while waiting for the ice to thaw up. There I found a RUFOUS FANTAIL and thought I heard a LITTLE CUCKOO-SHRIKE. We left Malacoota at 1.30 and arrived at Lakes Entrance at 6.0. Home from there next day.

It was in no sense a birding holiday, but it was remarkably successful and we have every intention of making it a fortnight next year.

10th SEPTEMBER 1956 I had became enrolled as a bird-bander with a license from CSIRO, Canberra and the Dept. of Fisheries & Game. Also The Colac Field Naturalists had Commenced. So I thought a programme of ringing could well be introduced. It was

obvious that Lake Cranganuite was a likely spot for rockets but - it is huge & an efficient reconnaissance could only be done by plane. So, through the help of Graham Woods I contacted a crop-spraying pilot and machine to do it. On Monday afternoon (I was off sick' convalescing from glandular fever) Graham Woods, the pilot Keith Hill and myself set off for West Wolf at 1.30. We saw a flock of about 20 BLUE-WINGED PARROTS at West Wolf. Arrived at the paddock we had a little difficulty with a defective spark-plug We were off at 3.30. I sat in the front cockpit which was the tank for the spray - no seating and, worse still, no windscreen. The wind pressure was terrific. Our airspeed was around 70 mph but 6 ft behind the propellor, it was moving past me at a much greater rate. It took me quite a time to get used to it and to decide head only outside was preferable to shoulders and all

We made first for Vaughlins Island where there was a large Pelican Rookery - several hundred nests. We kept well above the birds which floated off the island in all directions. Then we went west but saw nothing on the Pamburient shores so turned back to West West where there were two islands covered with cormorant (Little Pied) nests. These birds streamed out across the water as we went over. Up the east coast to Pelican Point briefly over towards Foxtons where there was apparently no island and so south again over the extensive flooded areas of Drouin and West West to Hanlons paddock where after some sheep had been chased away the Tiger Moth came safely down. It was a very successful venture (though rather surprising as no gull rookeries were seen) and quite an exciting afternoon. No payment was allowed but a tip of £2.0.0 went down well.

NOVEMBER 12th 1956 I set out at 7.0 am for the Grampians. Going by Tarttake I reached Hamilton at 9.0 to stock up with fresh supplies and petrol. Then up to Cavendish, past Eulameet to the track to the Wimmera-pool. The entrance to the track was flooded and after a walk round, found a way in a little further up the road. The track was OK in most places with some wet, and some sticky patches. In one of the latter I eventually stopped, my wheels spinning. Lightening the load and some brush under the wheels got me out, but I then and there put on my chains. The remaining sticky patches were then easily crossed. Which led to a confidence that I was my undoing. Turning to the left off the track (where it was obviously impassable) to make a detour through the paddock, I went down to the axles. That was 11.30 am. Except for a brief lunch I worked on it till 3.30.

Then I decided to try it all about the camp and camped in the bush on the other side of the track. Putting up camp, and a short circuit round completed that day.

NOVEMBER 13th - Up and off early, on down the track by the timber-boat. Across the ship by boat to the track up to the first weir. This track was very wet and the last part through the swamp was very thick - doubtless the wheels have been up it this season. After a brief pause and a drink I went on up to Eagle Falls then I backtracked up hot in the cold wet and relaxed over lunch. Back then, and I saw a DARTING FLYCATCHER out from the falls to the weir and so down the track. In the creek bed, just above the bridge-pool I heard an ORIOLE, which proved to be the first record for the Grampians. It was a long walk back to the car and a drink before (the only rain for the three days) we

finite silence. General collapse at the end. Finish = Two strikers completed. I turned about

NOVEMBER 10th At work at 7 : on the 8 and at 10.10 our Trumpeter in Parade Sir I found that I had to take the chance off to let the wheels get the track. The unit given by yesterday was that we were a part of force position 20 yds from there I stood

It was a glorious hot day so I stayed round camp with very little on. I had a very good view of the skylarks and an even better one of a swallow. Think I almost had one in this photo and. I talked it — in the [illegible] 11.10 turned off - with shrine on - and except for a brief stop when one wheel went right down, got out onto the main track. resumed chains, and was very grateful to be on really firm ground again

I cut across from there to Dunkeld -
Glen Tilt was passed a BLACK-FRONTED
DOTTEREL on nest on the edge of a lake.
Had a record in the area at 2. Below
and returned South from there to
Blair Atholl and to home at 1.30 pm.
It was a wonderful three day trip
I could have done with two more days
seeing all the country.
The Falls of Bruar and Pitlochry
NOVEMBER 16th 1971
Glen Tilt Dunkeld Blair Atholl
Home I took off, this time, from the
Dotterel's nest However we were arrested
at the attempts of a pair of Mountain
Hares to get from [illegible] to a
fence. Then up through Glen Tilt to
Connachoch of the Balmoral Estate
Here there is an ex-forestry
called Glendoe Lodge. We got back at

2.5. Max was away working, so Richard and I walked a mile in to town to the bank. We could not find the Speckled Wood-shrike. Max had found but we had to see a LITTLE CUCKOO-SHRIKE there. Max had given instruction to the real business of bird-watching.

It was a cold day with showers sweeping over from the west so we decided to stay with Max and listen that night. Mike found a bird, and though we could not have heard an early night. We sat chatting in front of the fire till 11. Then I settled on the floor to sleep.

NOVEMBER 7th It was a lunch hour working and we were off by 9.0 a.m. We cut across to the Hat High Way and travelled north to Glen Falls where we turned right down a track. It was thick mist and Max stuck twice. Once that was easy to get out of and we eventually scrambled a mile down that

track just past a stinky police check
was Tanda & negotiate. After calling it
camp in both lunch and more of it
the usual quality beans & rice. The locals
brought kinda, with lime - a mixture of
sweet-sour - and the juice of a nut
it. Then at first I couldn't find the
tracks. I've been on with Charlie
Austin & was wondered briefly why
tall bracken & we stumbled across it.

Then it was better. We had a
good view & small flock of tsavo. At
the end & the track we took a path
scramble through very tall bracken and up
round the shoulder of a hill till we came
to a most impressive waterfall, not a
straight drop, but a total of some 70 ft.
Then back across the track where Mike
spotted an Echidna. Dick very bravely
went in with his fingers and held it.
It was a funny waddle and the two boys
were funny. However then we got
back to camp as too suddenly with a

drink was thick and watery. Stirk the boys reinvented Chris's little Swede words & that! It was a jolly cold night and the boys slept well.

NOVEMBER 4th An early breakfast was accompanied by the screech of locusts & beetles with us inside. Stirk camp & moved out as when came Tsumis down. We got off the track on to the highway & Swedes tried. Though we could not locate left it much later.

We returned to the Windhoek-Gobabis road (Chimney Gobabis) and went a mile down & down a track leading off to the north which we were told the Ohimicans should have joined up with the track on which we had stumped the previous night and which we had just left. We went up & under by car and then walked on in the same direction 1½ miles. It was eight miles along the Gobabis highway between turning into the Ohimicans (Lt. 90-193 m.p.). We lunched

been in four miles from the north and five miles from the south but I think we were still a few miles short of the two points we had reached.

To us returned to the car. The rain changed up. We drove to the junction by the coast road to the Gulf. At three we had breakfast before we set up. There I set up camp in a wet forest tunnel. Mike and Robin went back and Mike and I climbed to bivouac and went on to the South. It was wonderful for Mike and I was glad as to be with, for until we got to the top my [illegible] Mountain. Back to camp with Richard [illegible] Mike [illegible] Later [illegible] Mike and I [illegible] Mike [illegible] Richard [illegible] Mike [illegible] Richard [illegible]

NOVEMBER 14th We were up and started by 9.0 am. After a brief walk round

when the campsite was reserved. I on Forest Commission Rd and walked back along it. I took a wonderful view of a CHANNEL TAILED HAWK which flew right across us. We went 2 miles down the track and returned to the car. I went back to the first lights camp where we had left a track in our hurry to evacuate in the rain. Having collected that, we had lunch and I took a few shots at BLUE-CAPPED PARROTS with no success.

Then the long trek home - Kimbell Strathcona, Dimboola (took for C. Barnes Grave) Ouyen and home at 6.0 pm. We had collected four blue-tongues on the way which we presented to the family. I had been a very interesting and fun holiday, I think - a fantastic success. We finished with a list of 101 species which was quite good. Although we should have had over the first 100.

Now and I wrote a comparative
list of birds and Grandfather's
the birds mentioned to me in the
other. At it is as follows —

OTWAY.

WHITE GOSHAWK

KING PARROT

TWELVE-BREASTED PARROT

SCARLET PARROT

PINK ROBIN

RED ROBIN

RUFOUS FANTAIL

RUFOUS WHISTLE-KITE

OLIVE-WHISTLER

SINGING HONEYEATER

BEAUTIFUL FIRETAIL.

SATIN BOWER-BIRD

GRANDPARENTS

LITTLE CUCKOO-SHRIKE

HYLACOLA CAUTA

WHITE-BROWED BABBLER

RED-CAPPED ROBIN

The LITTLE EAGLE should
have been included
in [illegible] "almost
certain" kind of
[illegible] !

It is [illegible] that the [illegible]
[illegible] and [illegible]
the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[

19th JANUARY 1957. Started on our caravaning Wida with Saunby - saw Pelicans [illegible] Nothing to report until afternoon at Boss Kramp by the Nicholson R. Where there were hundreds of WHITE-NECKED HERONS - more than I had ever seen before. Near them were some White birds - egrets or spoonbills - but we couldn't get to see. Just before Lakes Entrance was a PEACEFUL DOVE. We went on to Orbost, arriving at 6.0 pm.

20th Jan 57 We woke to the Superb call of the GOLDEN WHISTLER - in fine fettle. We moved off early, arriving Talcoota at 12.45 pm. after a fairly long drive. The afternoon was spent settling in - the jobs required for a comfortable fortnight. [illegible] was interrupted by the excited calls of PIED OYSTERCATCHERS, of which there were seven on a nearby sandbank who were apparently having territorial trouble. Around the camp, as the previous year, were WRENS and SILVEREYES. At 6.0 pm we had a very short walk along the beach and were entranced at the

LITTLE TERNS They evidently have an extensive flight in pairs - chasing each other in acrobatics, diving, calling like sentinels and generally enjoying themselves in the air.

Tuesday 17 started a clear fine day but the wind sprang up in the night. By the morning it had veered round to the east and changed to a cold northerly. However it was sunny & generally fine. In the morning after chores and breakfast contact at the usual time Dave & I found they embarked us, we swam and cycled on the beach. After lunch I like to keep in touch with the Friendship for the bread. In the later afternoon the boys and I went over to the large creek & found opposite the camp where I found a couple of LITTLE TERNS nests with their minute fledglings. On the way back across the causeways were a flock of gulls among which was a first year herring gull with the immature mingy plumage in its right leg. Our ~~the~~ next efforts became

22nd Jan. 57 Tuesday — nothing to report in the way of birds. It was raining when we woke but cleared during the day. We spent the day on the beach or sleeping. Joan decided what must have been a WHITE-TOE BIRD and there were terrific cats from the nearby trees in the evening. It all was quite reminds us of the eve of that tactic of a.m. storm last year. We'll see.

23rd Jan 57 Wed. — Nothing to report for birds — just being lazy and sleeping

24th Jan 57 Thurs. Went for a swim in the morning over on the bay and found two of the young LITTLE TERN again and another nest with one egg.

After lunch I went for a walk taking Randolph down to Davis Creek but there were very few birds. It was noteworthy that the dominant birds were SILVEREYES and BROWN THORNBILLS in mixed flocks, the dominant honeyeater being the SPINEBILL. I saw a MOUNTAIN THRUSH in the gully by the camp.

In the evening we drove over to Bertha Peak. Saw bands of [illegible] and rocks but there were no birds.

25th January Friday A cool grey day. In the afternoon I took Tom round to Buckland's jetty and caught 10 fish and lost one which disappeared with great rapidity into the water.

26th Jan. - Saturday. A cold grey day with a high wind. In the afternoon Mr White Jamieson went round to Buckland's jetty where I was unable more sheltered. They had been fished out the previous evening. But we still caught 10 fish.

27th Jan - Sunday A strong easterly wind made itself felt but it was a fine sheltered day and it was hot and [illegible] is wet. After lunch I went over to the Bertha R. to look for the tracks of the little Tern which had been seen nesting on the shores of the lower reaches of the river last year. However there was no sign of them this year at all - the early

thing in the channel being a flock of FAIRY PENGUIN and PIPITS feeding on seeds by the waterside. But I did see a WHITE-BREASTED SEA-EAGLE flying over the river which was unexpected. I also saw a CASPIAN TERN over the lower reaches. In the ti-trees on the banks were LITTLE WATTLE-BIRDS. Later in the evening the white family came over to look in the car out of reach of the birds.

29th Jan 1957 - Tuesday. After lunch I took Mike, Jimmy and Julia together with Paul and Sue Maugher (our next-door neighbours) back 8 miles on the Geelong Rd. to Bamble Creek. We walked a few hundred yards upstream and saw a party of LEWIN HONEYEATERS. Which I was unable to identify. Till I returned to camp. Though it may be listed in my notes previously, I think it is worthwhile a re-read! Also there was a RUFOUS FANTAIL and a

MOUNTAIN THRUSH singing beautifully in the bush by the Blackwood (4 pm).
CRESCENT HONEYEATERS were common and LORIKEETS (sp.?) were here. Also saw a pair of Twits and an Azure Kingfisher on the stream just before we left for home but S did not see it.

29th January - Wednesday. After lunch I walked over to the Retreat with Michael, Jonathan and Paul Hawkes. For the most part we were in the heathland which is so typical a few hundred yards behind the dunes — but we saw no typical birds! We forded the [redacted], a few hundred yards from its mouth and found ourselves in light eucalypt savanna which was sparse & bankers with sword-edged leaves and huge flowers. There I saw the PURPLE-CAPED HONEYEATERS — an almost certain identification, but about which I am going to write to Norm Wakefield. We blotted at the

beach and I was surprised to see a flock of RING-PARROTS feeding on the coastal water. Just before reaching town, SPINE-TAILED SWIFTS were in the sky.

30th January - Wednesday. After lunch I went by myself up the coast about 2 miles along the shore from the township where Norm was to pick back and I should see the BLACK-FACED FLYCATCHER and BROWN WARBLER. — And by Jove I did too - both of them. The former I heard early in the search but did not find for nearly an hour then I had lots of time to examine it, perching on a dead bough. Then on the way back, I heard and got good views of the BROWN WARBLER - a dull little bird if ever there was one, but his Birds is dull if it is rare. The only other rarity I got was a SPOTTED PARDALOTE which came within a few

heat of the day. It was a most enjoyable short walk.

1st January 1957 - Thursday. We left at 10.30 on the Hansens launch for the trip up to Cape Point. It was very hot and an ideal outlook by spending such a day. TWO WEDGE-TAILED EAGLES with white upper back rump and underneath pale in appearance, made me think of Osprey's, but I don't think they were.

After a couple of hours, and lunch we came down the inlet again and the launch turned with 32 passengers should have afternoon at Trichinopoly, Hansens farm. However the dropped me off on the Gordon Sands where I had 2½ hours to myself. Many LITTLE TERNS were busily fed on the banks amongst much chittering. LITTLE STINT and SHARP-TAILED STINT as well as flocks of RED-CAPPED DOTTEREL flew off in chittering flocks. I moved along

the mound to some tussocks and stones where I put up some SNIPE and came across a fairly small SILVER GULL ROOKERY. There were eggs, small chicks and longer downy young running off to the water. Then I came across a dead gull, a first year bird which had a fish hook in its lower mandible and a line on its right leg which I carefully removed (as well as the two hooks). Then retraced my steps to the other end of the lagoon and on an island the centre of which was a shallow water on sand and mud which provided good feeding for immature TEAL and wading birds. A pair of CASPIAN TERNS flew round me, obviously upset at my presence but no nest was found. I walked out onto the shallows and saw a flock of 17 bar-tailed GODWITS, and on the mud flats CURLEWS started running in

in quite large numbers to feed on the shallows. Then I went to work across the shallows to meet the launch. When I got back I took up my hard-hauled fish like boots and recounted one of the thrills of my life. For the dead bird I had found was one of ours! 04-04209 banded at Manorcone on Oct 6th. Took a couple of extra photos to celebrate.

On p. 14 (note) I noted a bird moth on rim around the camp and it is very probable that it took a bit of bait still left on the hook which hooked it. The trick is that it flies to a roosting area and waits there for me to find it.

Feb 1st 1957 Finder.

In the morning I went to Denis Creek to the Dawsia to try and find the Purple-capped Honeyeaters again but failed. A LITTLE FALCON flashed over me and I had a good view of an AZURE KINGFISHER.

After lunch we set forth for home and a few miles east of Town a flock of 8 Black Cockatoos flew over to the left. A few moments later Joan said "What is the Black Cockatoo with red on its tail?". The bird was a couple flew on to the right at the same spot!! The birds were examined on board but I never saw them. A few miles by a new road, and Joan was back on the right side of Perth.

We made Hobart for tea and Lake Fortescue (9.15) for camp where I promptly dropped myself in the sand.

February 2nd 1957 - Saturday. W. 77 H.
It was early that I had breakfast in our hotel in Bairnsdale and were off travelling home. At Rosedale there was a bridge, constructed from two spans by Herman, WHITE Bros and Y-B. SPOONBILLS. We had

lunch near Wanaqui and were in Nelsonia by 2.15. As I was leaving the caravan at the Almonts a NIGHT-HERON flew over the valley.

It was a superb bird - as caravanning with family, and really very good for birds — a total of 100 on the trip - 50 of which were at Matacoota. New birds - Black-faced Flycatcher and Brown Warbler; Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (unsatisfactory sighting, heard at Nerra) and the Purple-crowned Honeyeater which I have in many notes as plentiful in the Mangroves round Tuckean. The identification of which has always worried me.

10

62

10.7

PAGE	DATE	EXCURSION
1.	9.11.55	Colac — Camp at C. Horn - Otway Forest
1.	10.11.55	Binns Rd Gully - Parker R - Stumbel-Bay
2.	11.11.55.	Yates Rest. - Binns Rd Gully - Glen Aire -
3.	22-28.1.56	Caravan holiday — MANTCOOTA.
5.	10.9.56	Aerial reconnaissance by 4 Squadron
8	12.11.56	GRAMPIANS ① — Colac - Enfamet - Dergold
9	13.11.56	- 1st Weir - Eagle Falls
10	14.11.56	- Out of bog - vacant camp - home
11	16.11.56	GRAMPIANS ② - Home - Dundas Park
12	17.11.56	- Glen Stuart Falls : visit to Park
14	18.11.56	- Wonderland Track : [illegible]
15	19.11.56	- Back to Glen Stuart - home.
17	—	Inter-section Cpt. Grampians and Glen Stuart Falls
19	19.1.57	Melbourne — Ballarat
19	20.1.57	Ballarat - Mallacoota
19	21.1.57	Mallacoota
20	22.1.57	
20	23.1.57	
20	24.1.57	"
21	25.1.57	"
21	26.1.57	"

P.	DATE	EXCURSION
21	27.1.57	Nalanchik — Baksa R.
22	28.1.57	" — Double Gate
23.	29.1.57	" — Walk to Balka.
24	30.1.57	" — Lowest limit along the
25	31.1.57	" — Cape Point & Grebenin Land
27	1.2.57	" Darial Gorge — departure
28	2.2.57	Lake Entrance — Tbilisi

DATE

P.	DATE	EXCURSION

P.	Date	Entries

J. Wolf & H. C. Richter, del et lith *Prints by courtesy of the London Library*

GOLDEN EAGLE—Aquila c. chrysaetus.

We begin our reproductions from John Gould's "British Birds" with four of the most spectacular birds in the British Isles. They belong to the family known as the *accipitriformes*; the diurnal birds of prey. Most majestic is the Golden Eagle, which now breeds only in the Highlands of Scotland and the Hebrides. This great bird, with its wing span of seven to eight feet, was once supposed to carry off human babies to feed its young. In fact, it leaves even its own eyrie on the approach of man.